According to the authority which has been given to the Board of commissioners in the article (4), item (8) of the Independent High Electoral Commission's law No. (11), in the year 2007 we decided issuing the following regulation:-

(Regulation)
(Mass media)
No. 8, year 2008

(Preamble)
The independent High (Supreme) Electoral Commission in Iraq has been established according to the law no (11) of the year 2007 to be precisely the only electoral authority in Iraq. The commission is professional, autonomous, independent, and neutral, subjected to the supervision of the council of representatives.

(1st Section)
(Terms of IHEC)
The following terms represented the meaning in the face of each one of them:-

2. "Iraqi Media Network":- Is an independent institution which entrusted with publishing information according to the order No. 66 of the year 2004.
3. "Rules of campaign":- Media coverage instructions for the period of elections.
4. "Campaign period":- A period which started from the date of registering IHEC's candidates. This period will be stopped before 24 hours from the time of opening polling centers through which coalitions and the political entities are doing their electoral campaign.
5. "Media Outlets":- Are the specialized means of providing news, information, and recreational material for the public by the use of audio/visual and printable media means.
6. "Political Entity":- An organization including the political party or a person as it has been defined in order no. 97 of the year 2004 the law of (Agents and Political entities).

7. "A coalition":- gathering of two political entities or more to produce a unified list of candidates in unified elections.

8. "Code of Conduct":- The rules of the code of conduct that refers to the media representatives Issued by IHEC.

(2nd Section)
(Transparent Media Coverage)

1. With the implementing of the principle of freedom of expression and access of information; those media outlets must be accurate, integrator, impartial, and virtuous in their information, and they should deal with all coalitions and political entities in a transparent treatment away from partially.

2. Emphasis on the entire official Iraqi media network to provide the equal possibilities to help political entities and coalitions reaching these means and covering their activities.

3. Asking all the audio, visual, and readable Iraqi media means, to lower the prices of the advertisements in days of electoral propagandas which requires national stamp and of no commercial scope.

4. Mass media must avoid deforming or distorting any information issues by IHEC from the left materials related to elections whether this information were paid as propagandas or data or the general media news.

(3rd Section)
(Using Media outlets for the Electoral Campaign)

1. Calling on all the official Iraqi audio/visual and readable Iraqi media outlets to provide a low price time of broadcasting for the coalition and political entities on the same footing to broadcast the electoral material for them.

2. Any Iraqi media means are not allowed to intend deforming, distorting, falsification, an offence, or deleting important information which might affect actually on the understanding of the public for some event or an incident. Information related to the
lists, procedures and the electoral policy should depend on official information which is given by the IHEC.

3. Calling on the Electronic Media to guarantee the principle of equally and not allowing any discrimination or removal of any candidate or political entity when inviting the electoral campaign's organizers to participate in the photographed programs for this purpose. It should contain the policy of steering invitations, allowing participating in the programs, and the equalization between men and women.

4. Political entities, coalitions, and candidates got the right to involve in the electoral campaign by the use of paid propagandas in the Iraqi Media Means which, the readable, will publish such political propagandas with simple conditions.

(4th Section)

(Commitments of the Iraqi media network)

Iraqi Media Network as a general broadcast body which is funded by the government and legally obliged with educating and informing voters with the following:

1. Educate voters and informing listeners about the elections by the use of news broadcast, television and radio programs.
2. Providing the practical information for citizens to vote, then all the arrangements will be taken to guarantee its reach to the different society spectrum.
3. The provision of free broadcasting time for the citizens and the allocation of television studios and technical resources which are available to candidates to be shown at least once in the dialogues, programs or political discussions.
4. Provide audible or visual broadcast media for the referred programs which are indicated to in the 3rd paragraph freely for the media broadcast means, which are not followed to them to work on broadcasting them without any modification.
5. Free information and programs' broadcasting issued and provided by IHEC. The network, upon the commission's request, should provide free visual and audio recordings of such programs for
other media broadcast outlets which are not following to the media net work to work on broadcasting them without amendment.

(5th Section)

(Voters Education and General Information)

1. According to the (Electoral Campaign) regulation, the Iraqi Mass Media is responsible for informing listeners, readers, and viewers accurately and in the appropriate time with the electoral ongoing procedures. Information related to the procedures and political lists should be based on real, accurate, clear, official, and transparent resources which are gained by IHEC.
2. Specifying the period of the media campaign from the date of registration of candidates by IHEC then stopped before (24) hours from the time of opening polling centers.

(6th Section)

(Media outlets’ attendance at the commission's headquarters)

1. Media Representatives who wish to get inside IHEC headquarters such as the national office in Baghdad and the offices in the governorates; should obtain the approval of the media officer first in these offices.
2. Media representatives who wish to get inside registration centers, polling centers, and sorting stations; should obtain media accreditation from IHEC then signing the (Code of Conduct).
3. It is prohibited to photograph or videotape any person in these headquarters without their clear consent. Even after the voter's consent, the tape and the photograph should not expose the voter's intention while voting.

(7th Section)

(Violations)

1. BOC will withdraw the accreditation from any media representative or media outlet that violated the rules of this regulation or the Code of Conduct.
2. BOC could request from the Iraqi National Body of media and communications imposing an appropriate penalty on any media
outlet which violated the rules of this regulation or the Code of Conduct.

3. IHEC could submit any criminal case to judicial authority if it gained any evidences proved the occurrence of a criminal violation.

(4th Section)
(Date of enforceability)

This Regulation shall enter into force from the date of its ratification by the Board of Commissioners on 19/7/2008.

Board of Commissioners